

EPILOG

My first contact with synod and district conventions was made as a 'young buck' fresh out of the seminary. This was back in the 60s when our synod was engaged in the painful but necessary responsibility of severing fellowship with former brethren because of our continuing commitment to sound doctrine. Invariably during the convention sessions, some sage would declare, "I see a grave danger in..."

I most certainly have not reached the maturity or the wisdom to be considered a sage and yet I am not exactly a neophyte either since I will soon have spent twenty years engaged in the most glorious work in the entire world - the work of a parish pastor.

In this thesis I have pointed to practices or even doctrines that Roman Catholicism has received as a negative legacy from Judaism. Having reviewed the theology and practice of Judaism, I am of the firm conviction that we also face inherited dangers. These are dangers that threaten the church body which I love, the congregation that

I serve, my ministry and me. Granted, these dangers mainly have to do with attitudes but they are dangers none the less - dangers that are both potential and kinetic. Since this is an epilog, I will only mention some of what I consider to be 'grave dangers' for Christians of the Twentieth Century. I will include only one example for each item mentioned. I do see parallels between some of what is so much a part of us and what is so closely connected with Judaism.

- 1.) Heritage -Judaism makes much of its heritage. We maintain that God's Word is our great heritage and yet we are continually attempting to preserve and extend a Germanic heritage which ranges all the way from musical tastes to operational methodology.
- 2.) Rigidity -subdued but continual warfare is still waged over what should not present an opportunity for battle, an example of such being the adiaphora of pastoral vestments.
- 3.) Fence Around
the Torah
Syndrome -closely connected with adiaphora with an example being the continuing controversy over dancing. The Sixth Commandment says: "You will not commit adultery!" In order

to guard the mitzvah, it is declared that this also means, "Thou shalt not dance."

4.) Motion -we are much more inclined to be centripetal than centrifugal. Our concern at times has been much more for maintenance than actual outreach. Because of our ethnic roots we are afflicted with somewhat of a xenophobic attitude toward those who are not born and raised members of WELS.

5.) Hero

Worship -so often when a question arises, what is heard is: "What does Dr. Luther say?" The first question must always be: "What does Scripture have to say?" Dr. Luther would be the first to agree.

May the Lord of the Church in his grace ever defend us from these dangers. Our mission is to a dying world. Our message is God's salvation in Christ. As one very wise man once said:

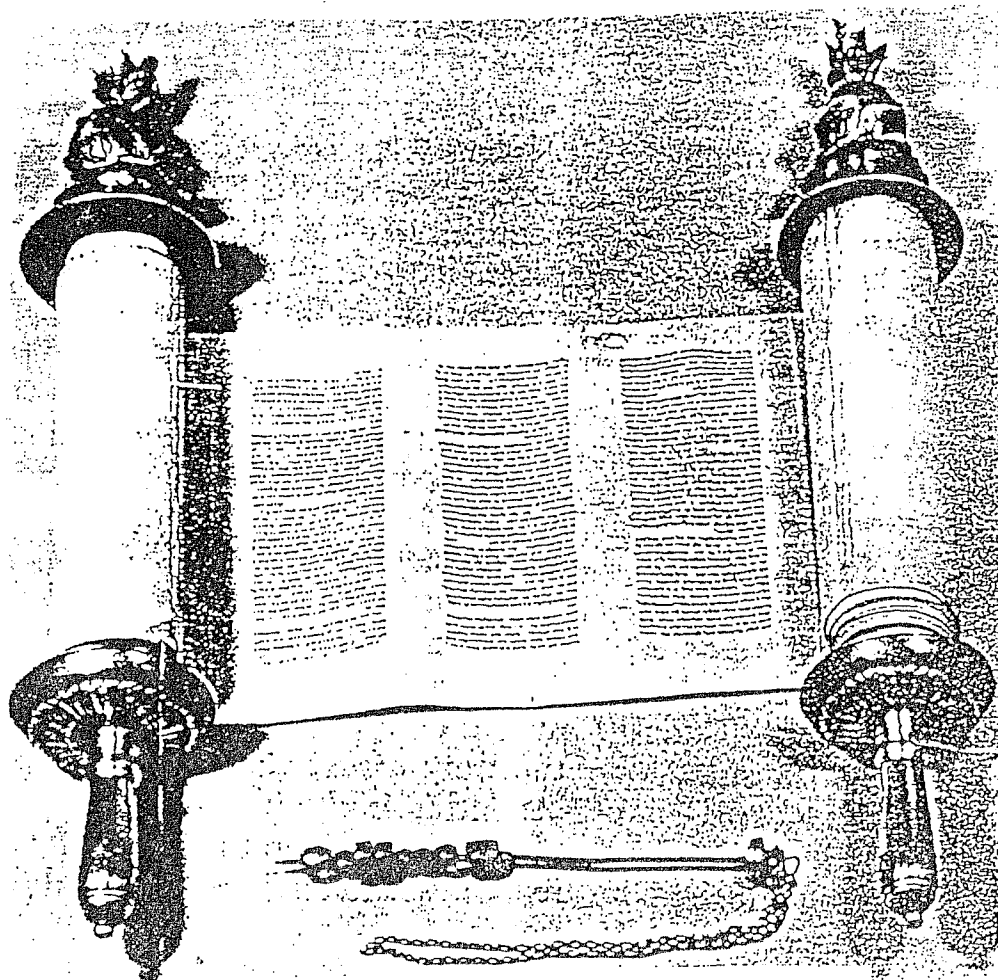
"We must learn from history or we are doomed to repeat it!"

May this thesis serve as a spur to further study and reflections.

Pastor Verne N. Voss



1: The author (right) and his mentor and friend, Yitzhak Grill



2: Torah scroll with pointer of p 152



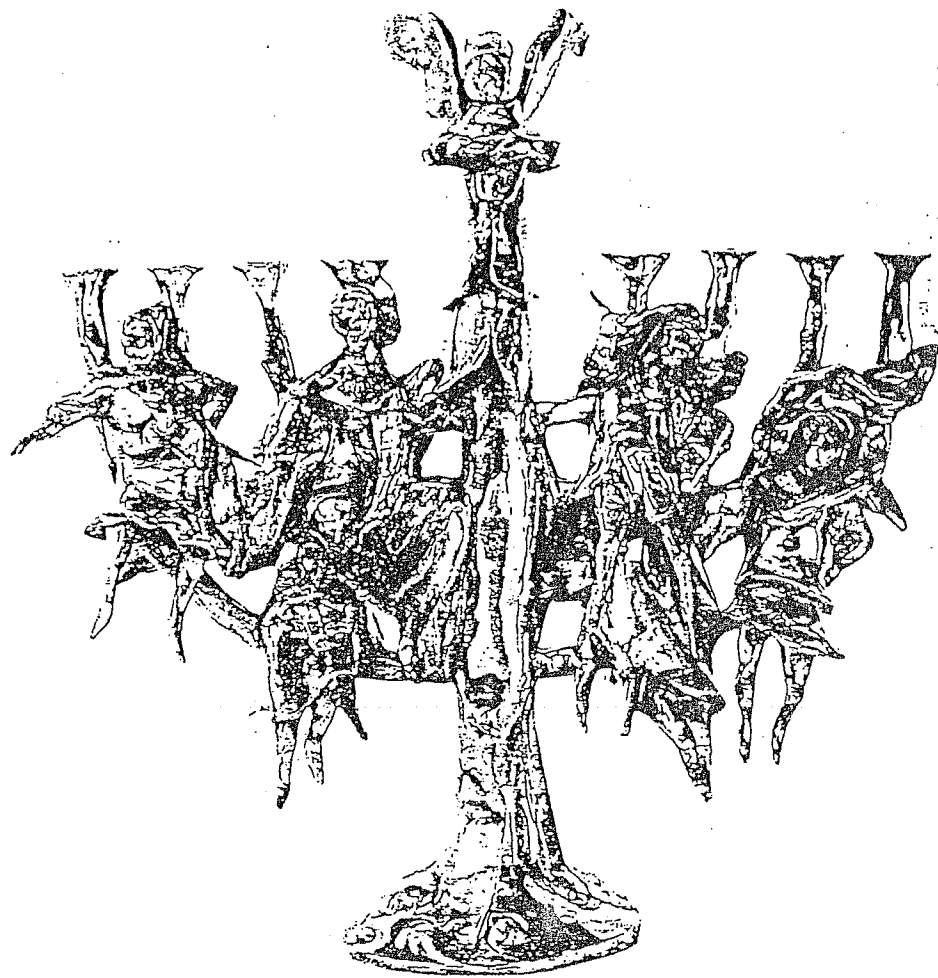
3: Maimonides cf pp 74;148,149



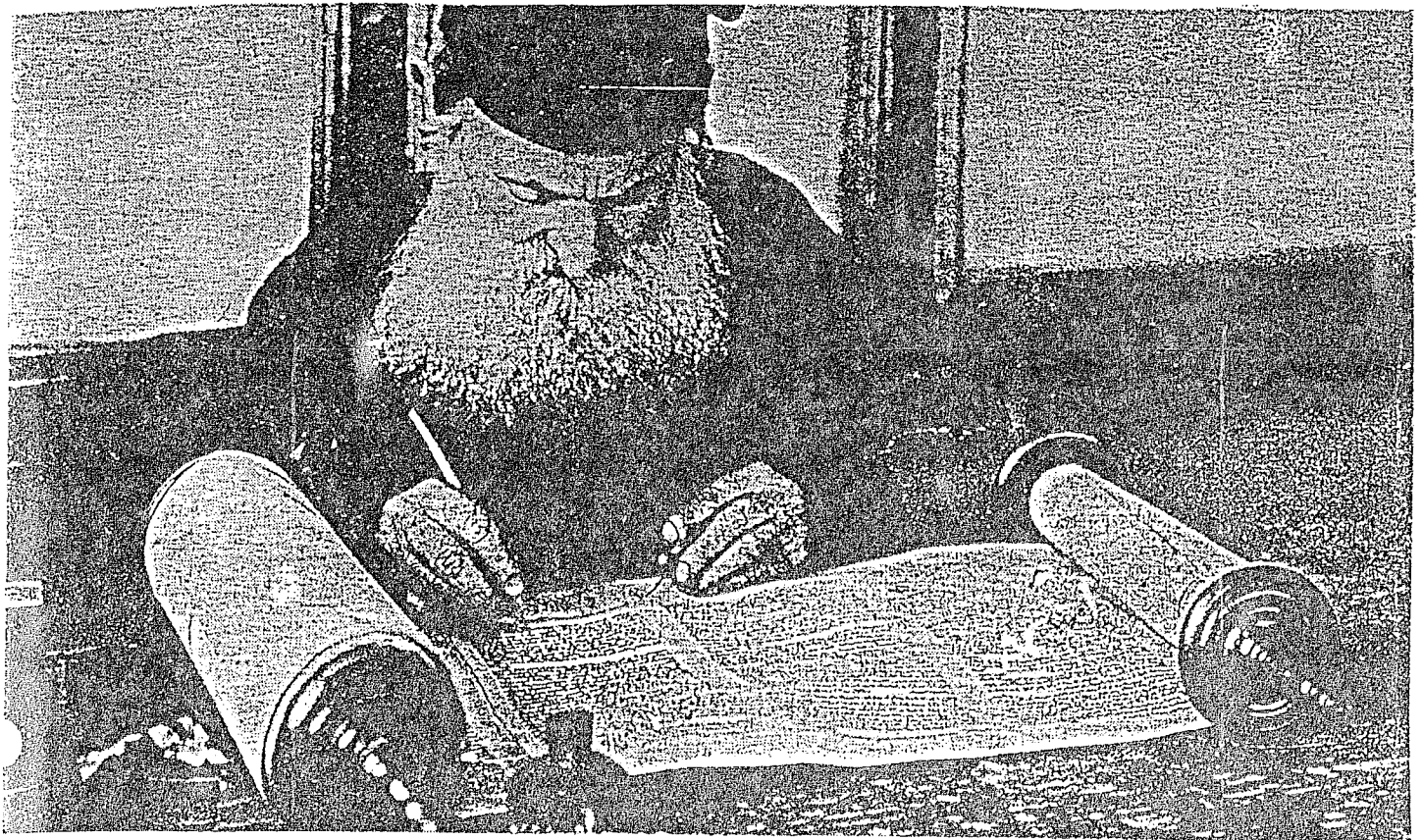
4: Zionist leader, Theodore Herz cf pp 62,63



5: Eliezer Ben Yehudah cf p 77



6: Menorah cf pp 153;190



7: Sofer p 63



8: Chasidic Jew with Payot cf p 147



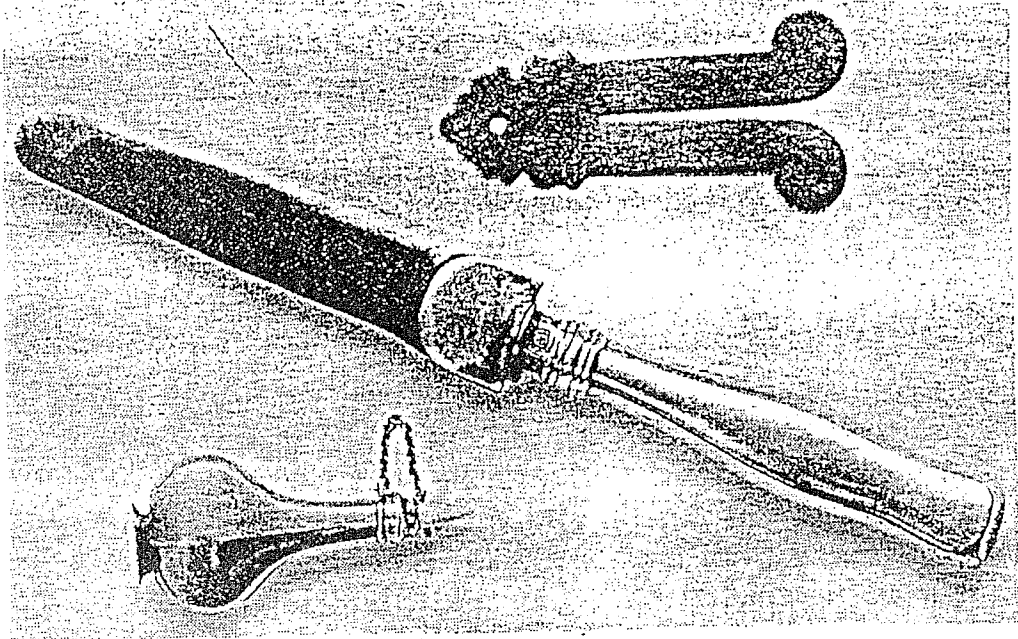
9: Chasidic Jew with fur hat cf pp 43,44



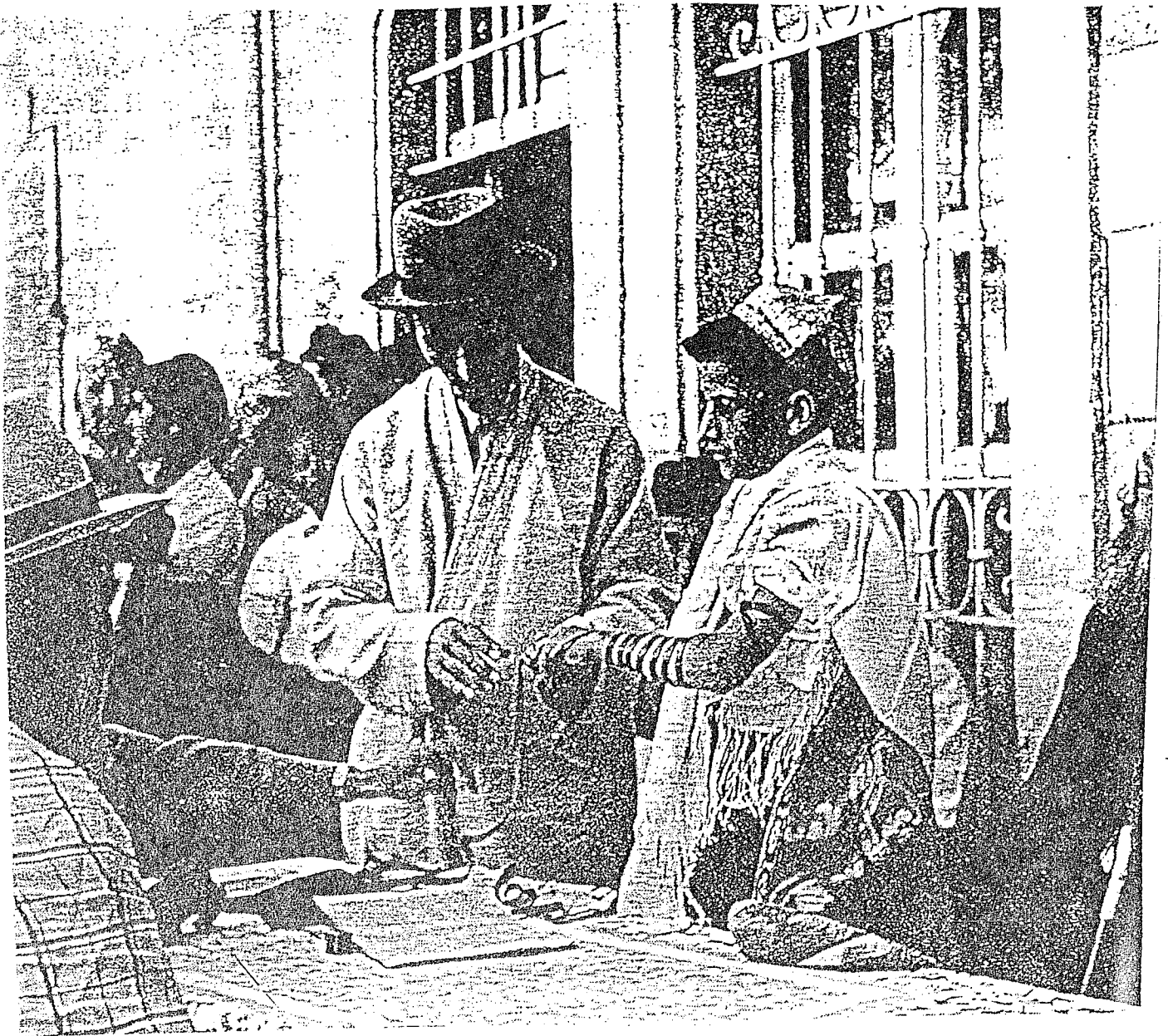
10: Chasidic Jew receiving the Shabbat blessing cf pp 43,44



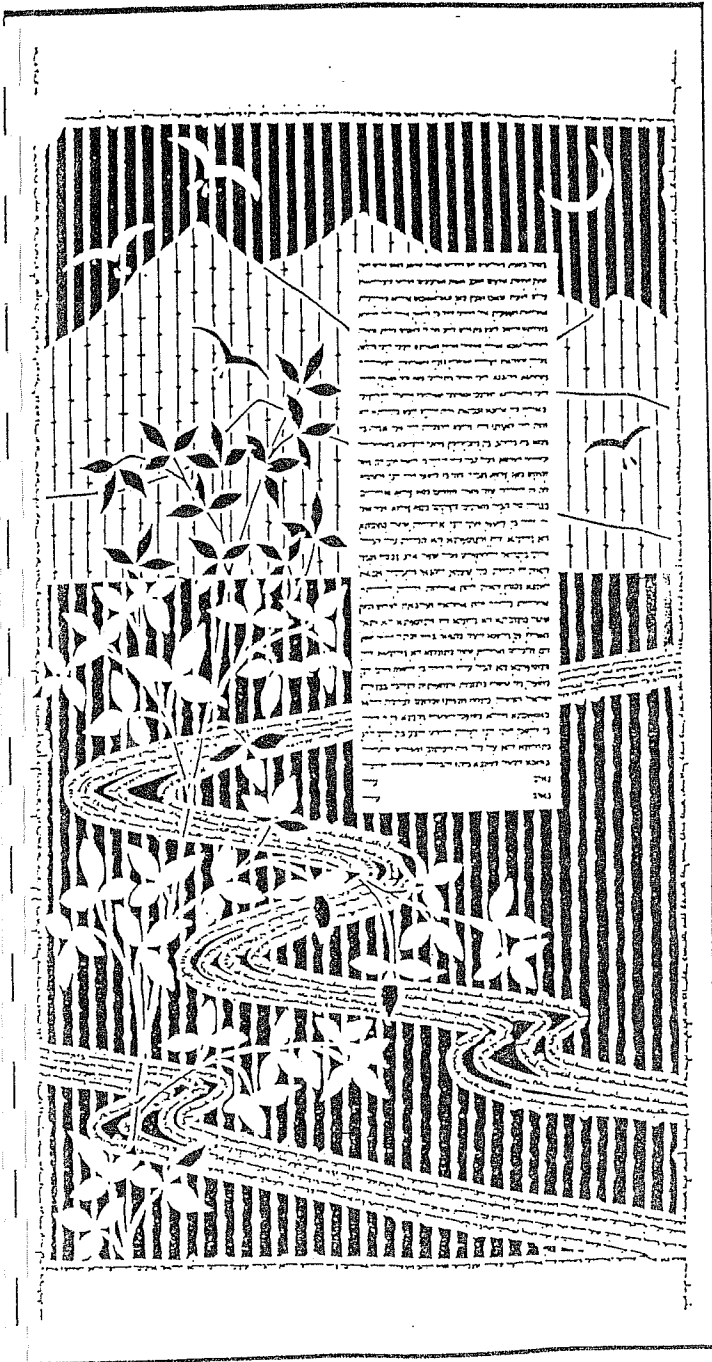
11: Brit Milah cf pp 86,87



12: Brit instruments cf pp 86,87

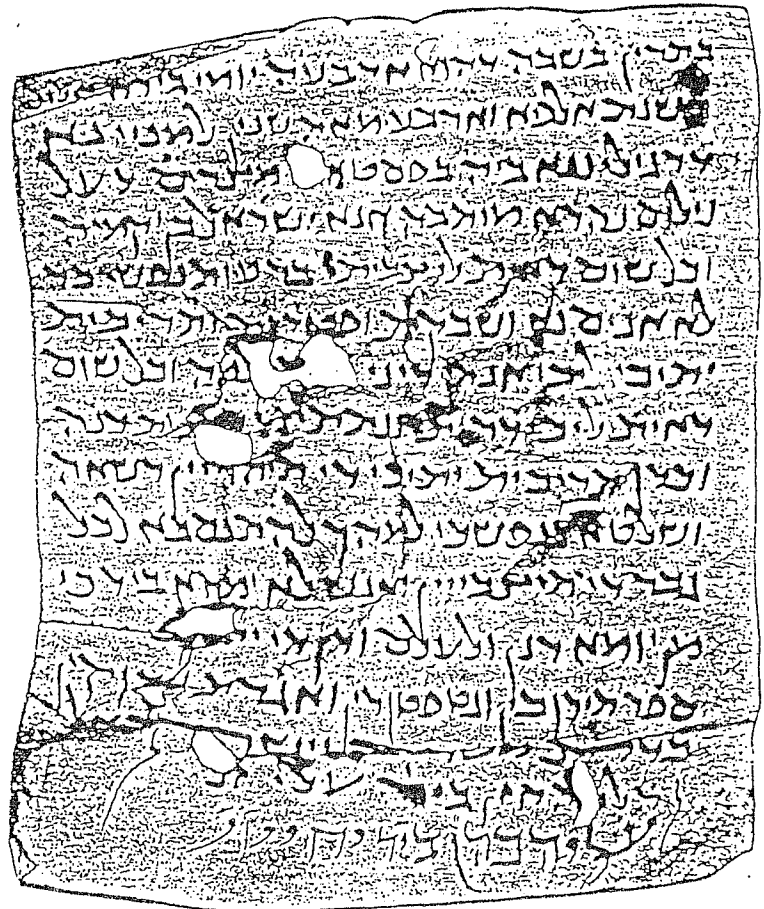


13: Bar Mitzvah cf pp 93ff



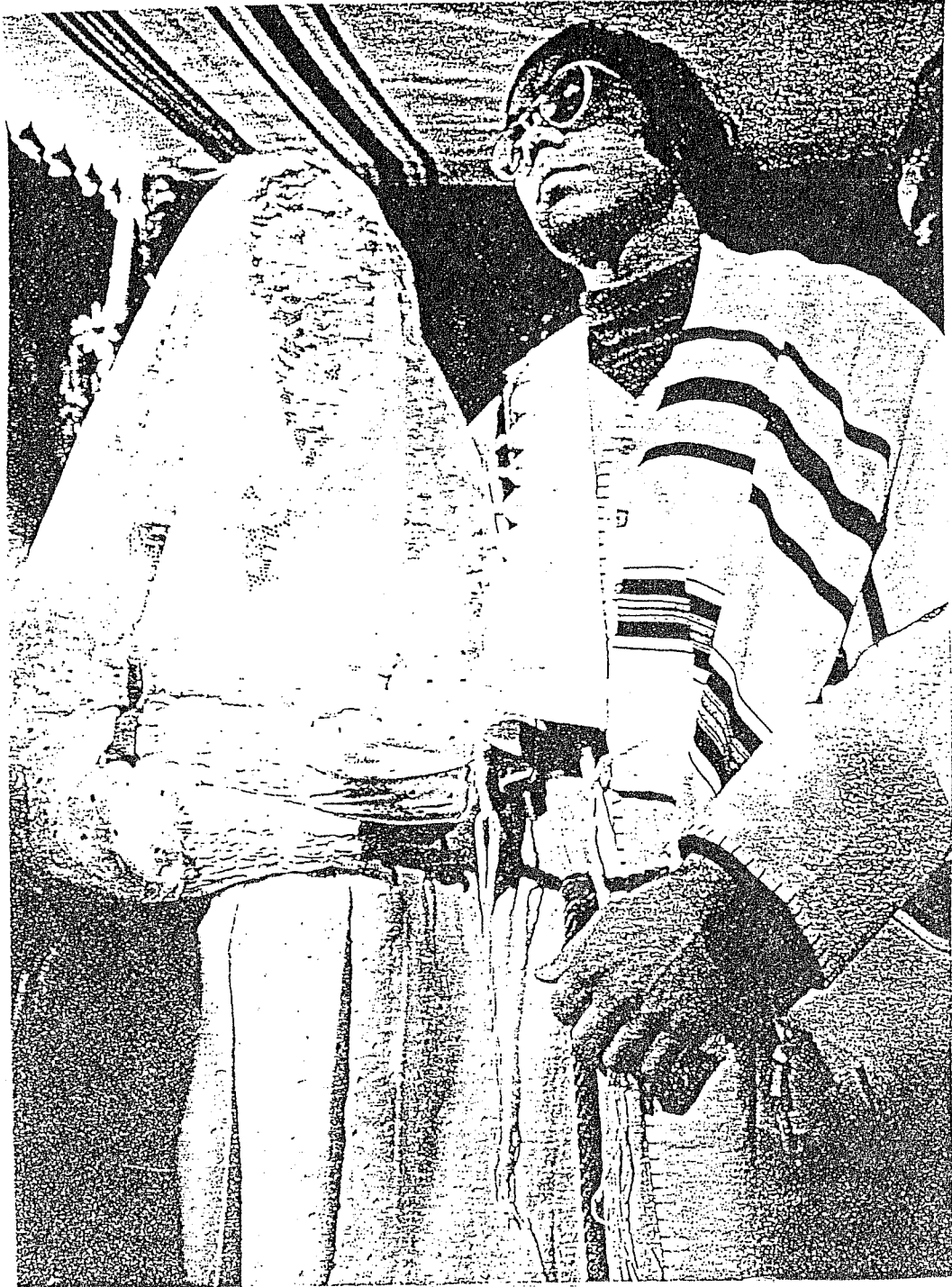
14: Ketubah (Hebrew marriage contract)
by David Moss.
ink on cut vellum, 7" x 14", 1982.
from the collection
of David and Ellen Spialter,
Columbus, Ohio.

14: Ketubah cf p 108

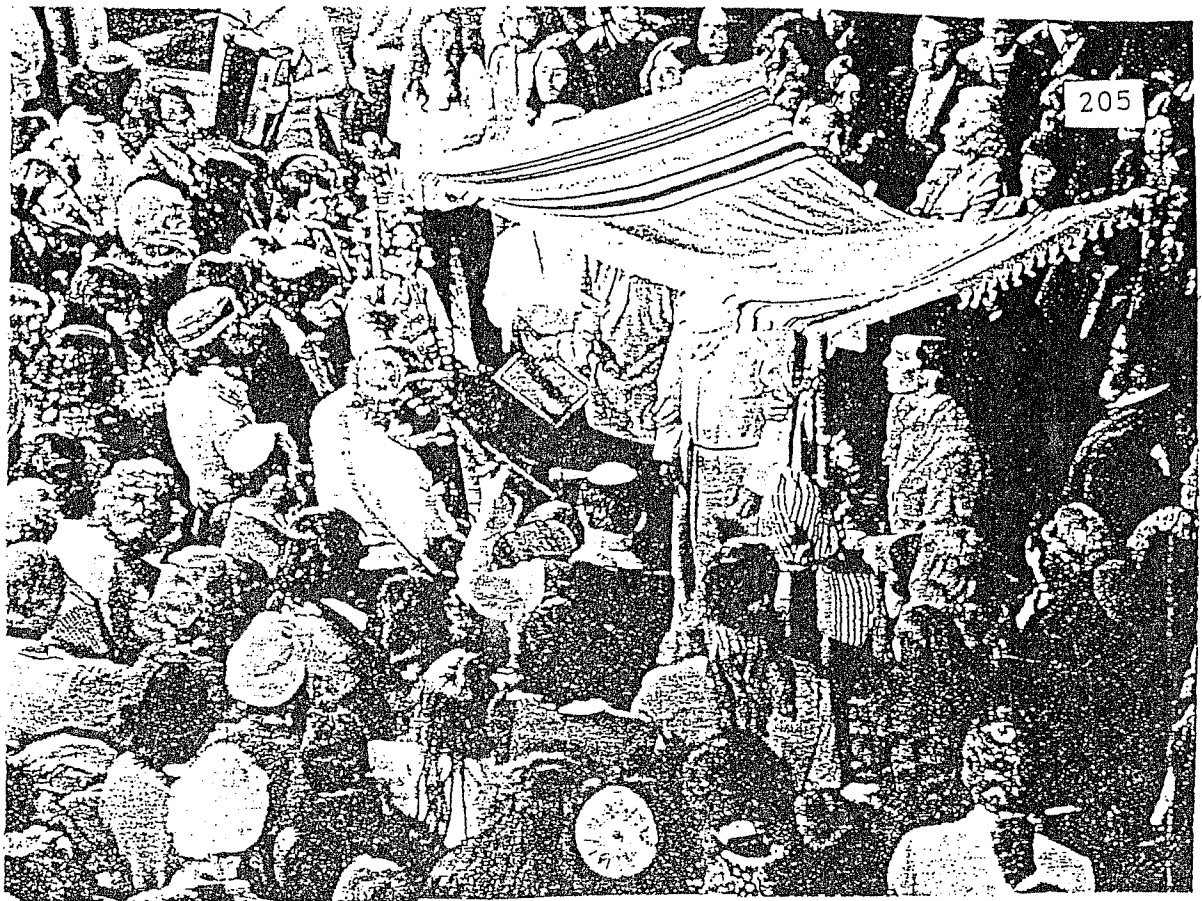


15: Get (bill of divorce) dated 1088 C.E.
(Discovered in the Cairo Genizah.)

15: Get cf pp 114ff



16: Marriage; groom with tallit and bride with veil
cf pp 109,110



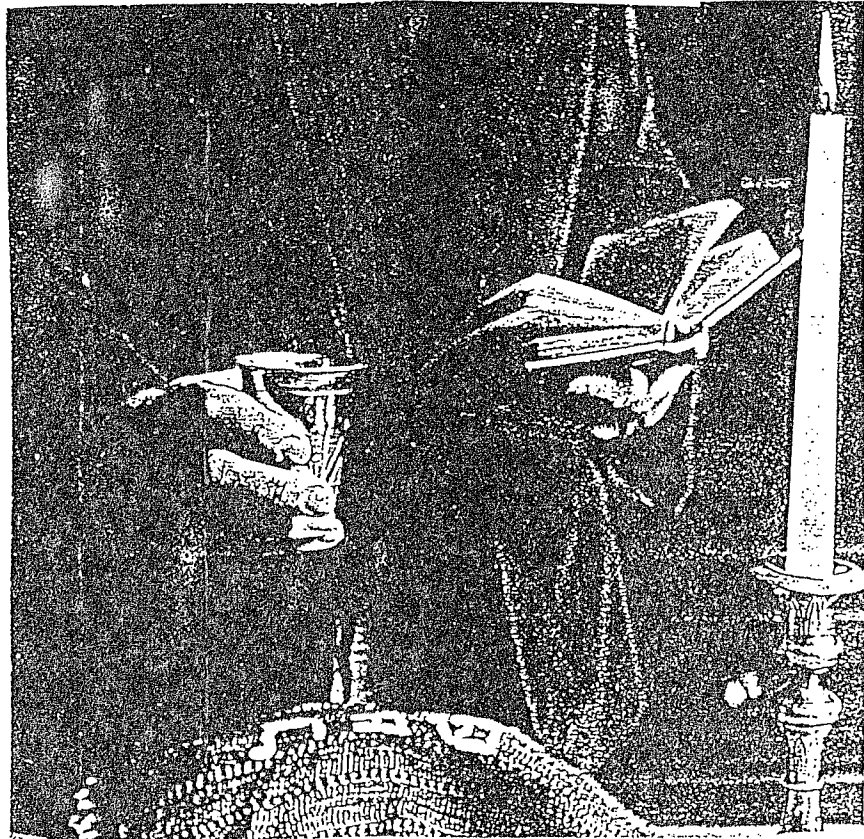
17: Chuppah cf p 109



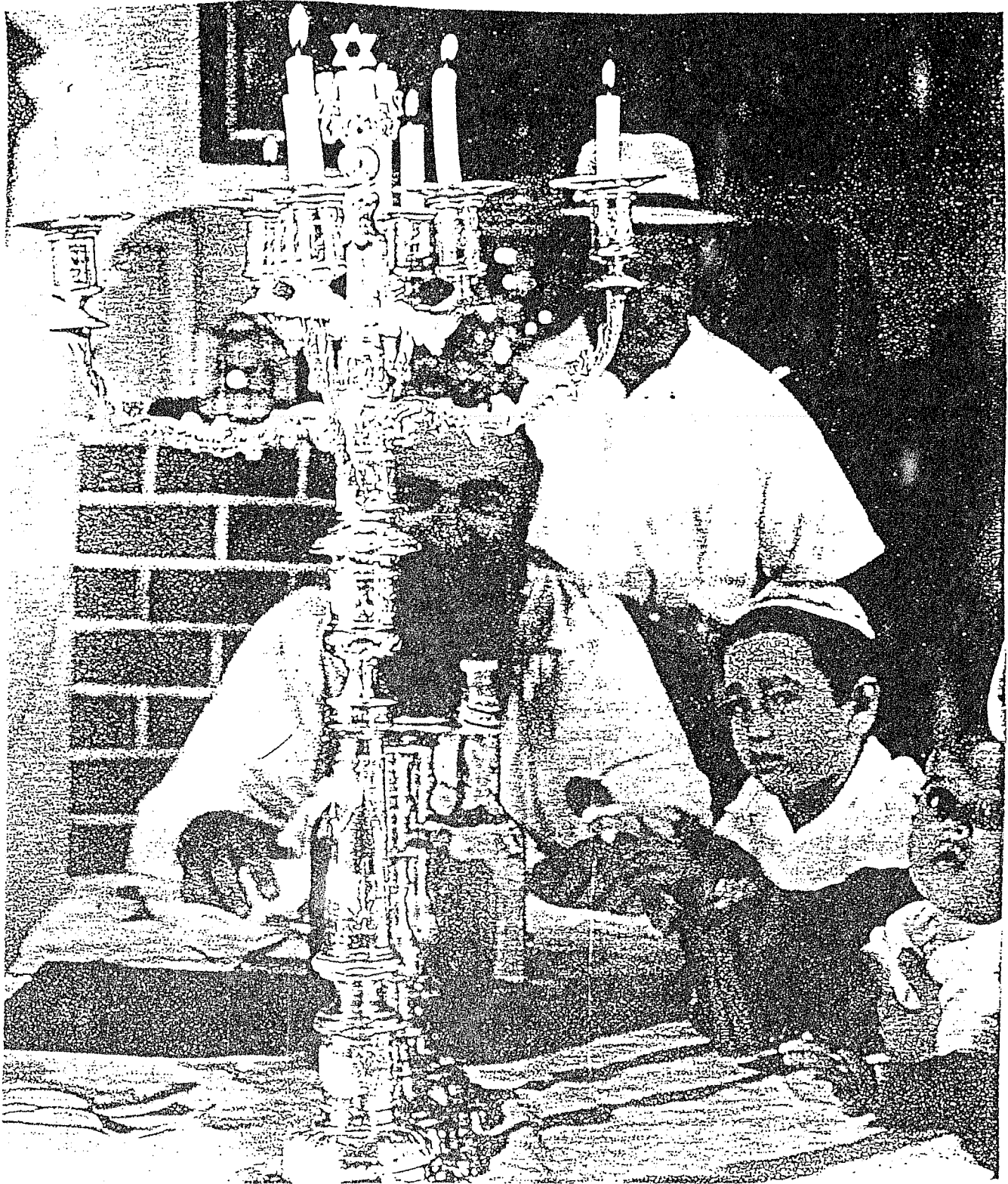
18: Graves with memorial stones cf p 133



19: Lighting Shabbat candles cf p 141

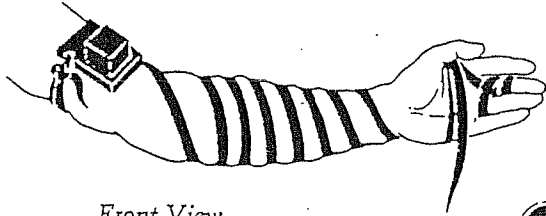


20: Shabbat Kiddush cf p 142

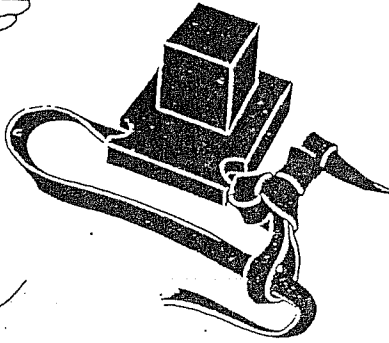


21: Oneg Shabbat cf p 142

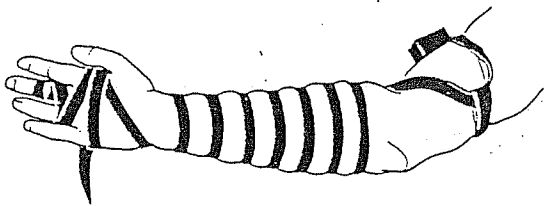
Signs of the Covenant: Love and Reverence



Front View

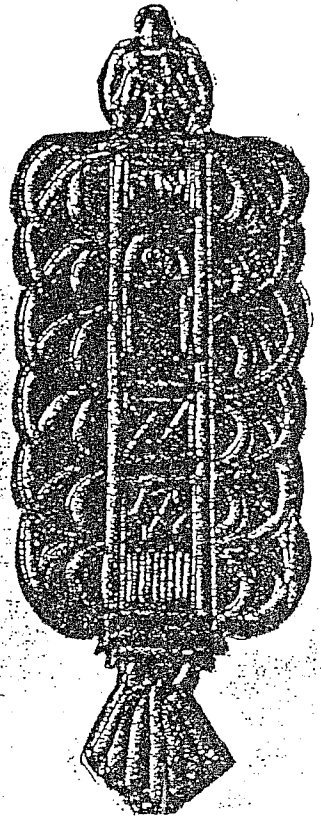


Hand Tefillin

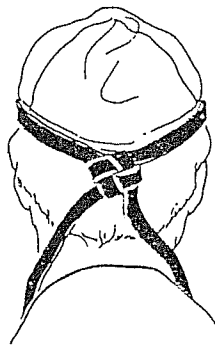


Back View

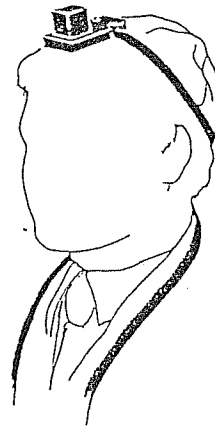
Correct Tefillin Position on Hand



23: Mezuzah cf p 148

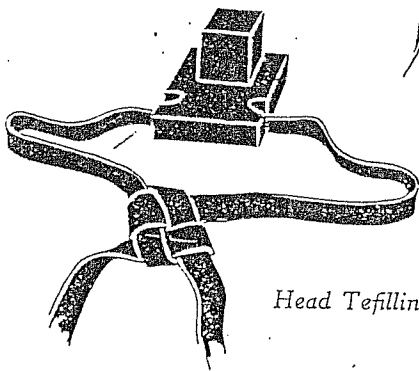


Back View



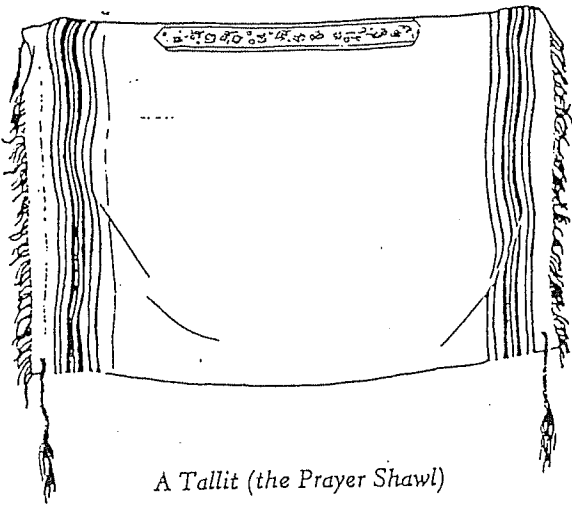
Side View

Correct Tefillin Position on Head

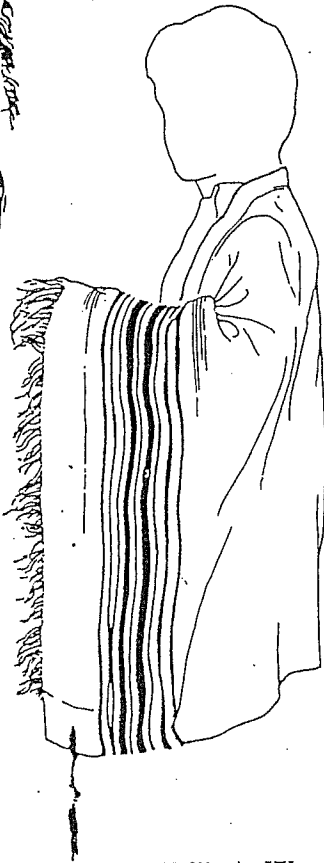


Head Tefillin

22: Tefillin cf p 151

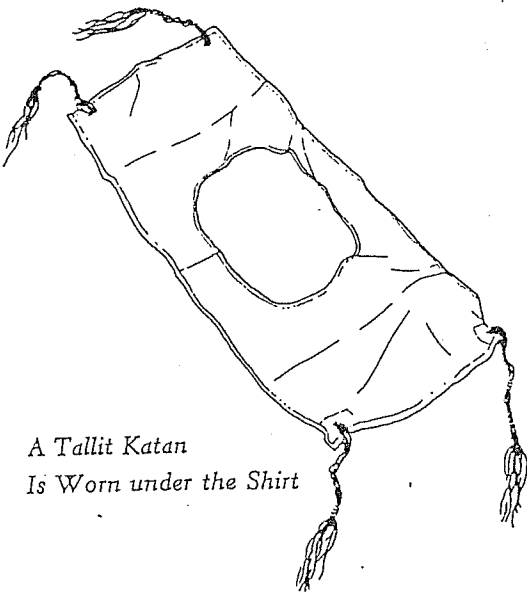


A Tallit (the Prayer Shawl)

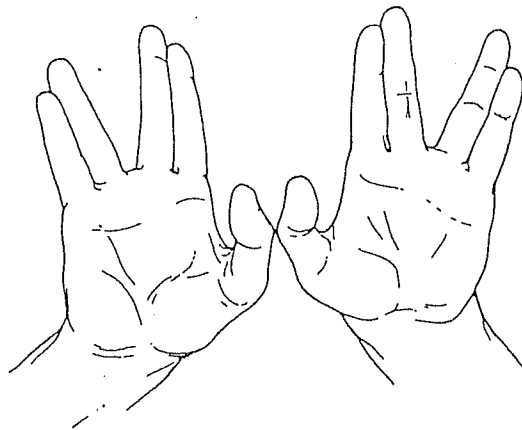


A Tallit As Worn
One of Several Ways

24: Tallit cf p 150



A Tallit Katan
Is Worn under the Shirt



27: Priestly benediction cf p 154

FIGURE 4 Correct Position for Fingers of Kohen's
Hands during Priestly Benediction



25: Blowing of the shofar to announce Shabbat
cf pp 137ff



26: The sound of Rosh Hashannah cf pp 166ff



28: An outdoor synagogue - the Western Wall in Jerusalem cf pp 152ff



29: Yom Kippur cf pp 170ff



30: The seder setting of pp 178ff



31: Shavuot cf pp 183ff



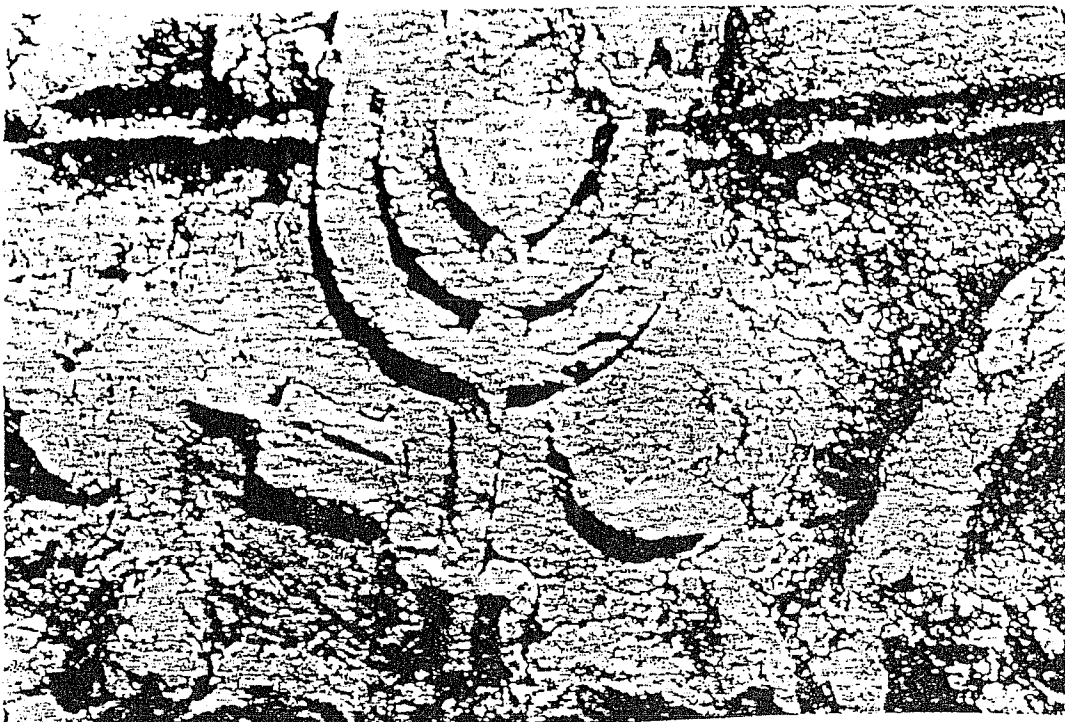
32: Sukkot cf pp 172ff



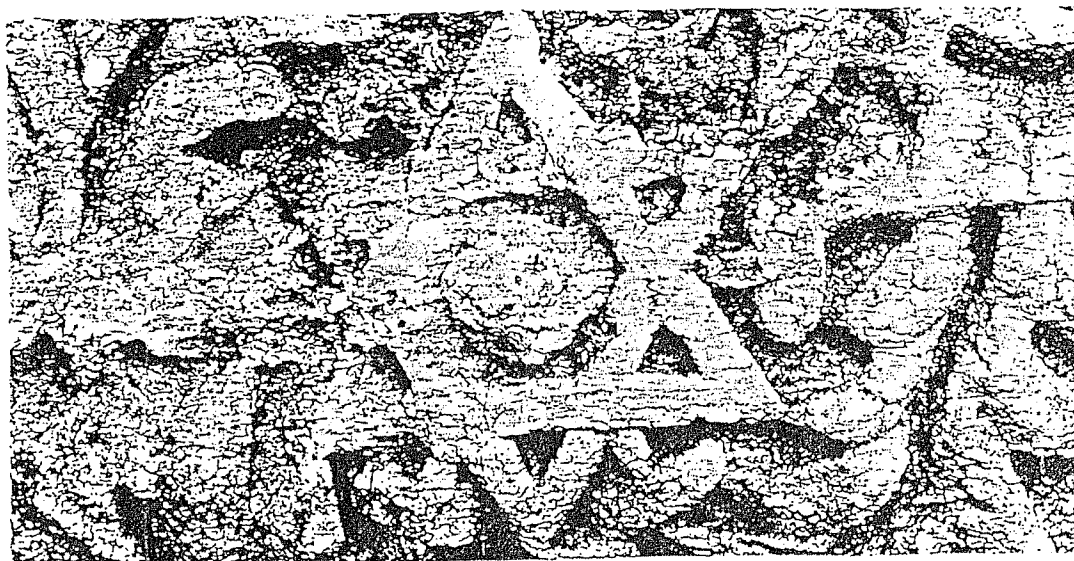
33: The lighting of the Hannukah menorah cf p 185



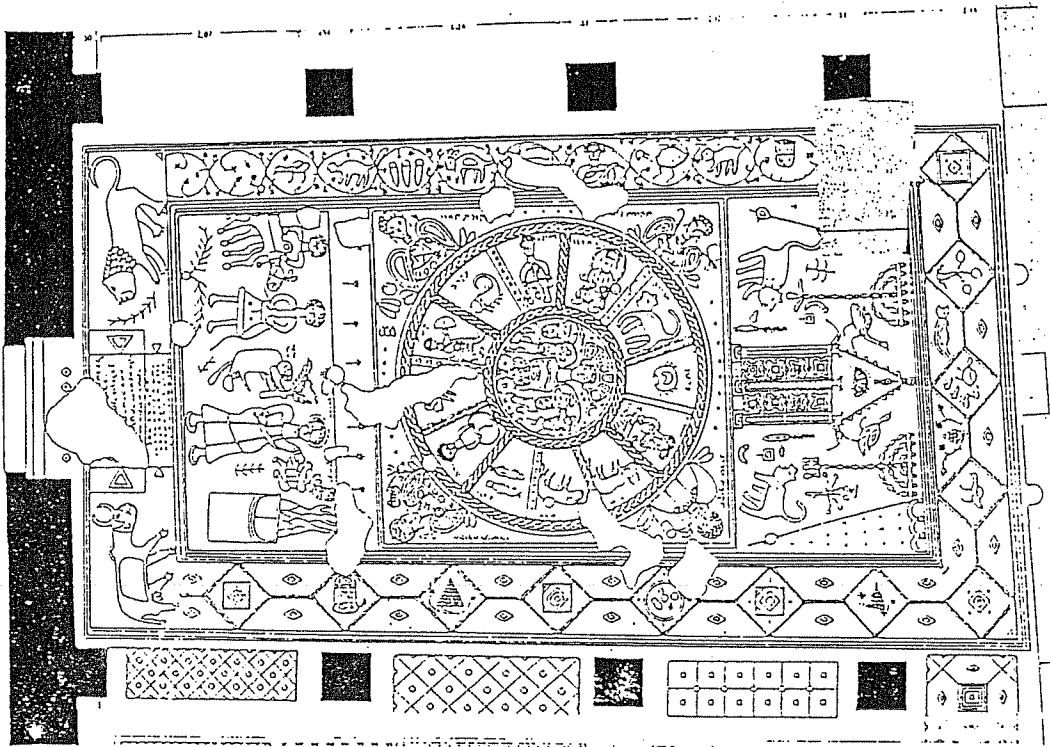
34: Simchat Torah cf p 186



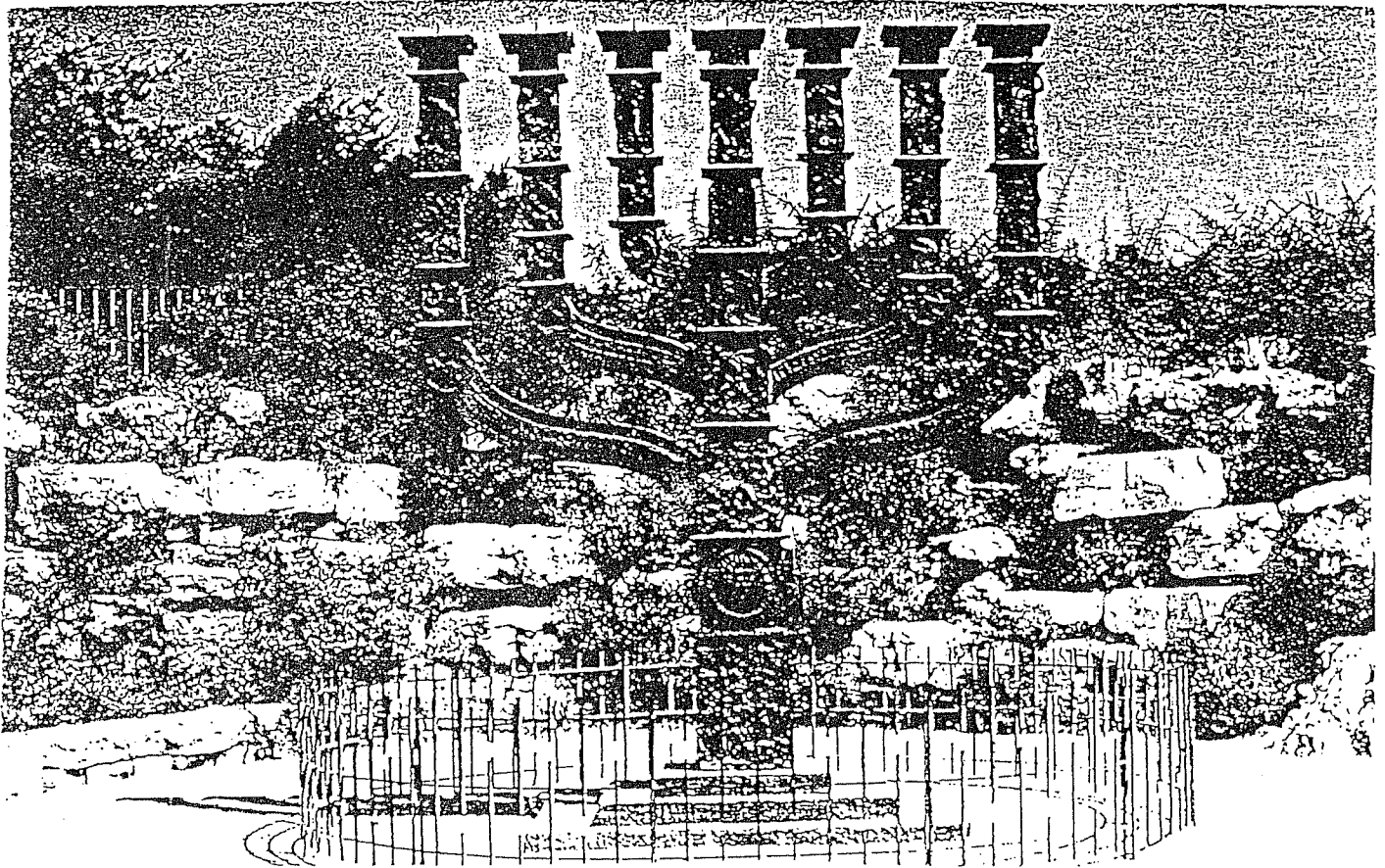
35: Stone menorah at Capernaum cf pp 153,190



36: Stone Magen David at Capernaum cf p 192



37: Diagram of the zodiac at Beth Alpha synagogue
cf p 165



38: The giant menorah in Jerusalem cf p 192

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. THE HEBREW OLD TESTAMENT
2. THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT
3. A SURVEY OF SYNTAX IN THE HEBREW OLD TESTAMENT, Watts, J. Wash, Eerdmans Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1964
4. HEBREW AND CHALDEE LEXICON, Gesenius, Wm., Eerdmans Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan
5. ENGLISH/HEBREW HEBREW/ENGLISH DICTIONARY, Ben-Yehuda, Pocket Books, New York, NY 1951
6. LEXICON TO THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT, Souter, Alexander, Oxford Press, London, England 1960
7. NEW TESTAMENT WORD LISTS, Morrison & Barnes, Eerdmans Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1966
8. NEW TESTAMENT GREEK NOTEBOOK
9. A GRAMMAR OF THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT, Robertson, A.T., Broadman Press, Nashville, Tennessee 1934
10. THE LIVING BIBLE ENCYCLOPEDIA, 16 volumes, H. S. Stutman Co. New York, NY 1968
11. FAMILY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE BIBLE, Alexander, Pat, Eerdmans, Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1978
12. HAGGADAH, B'RACHOT, MASORAH V'TARGUM, (Written and oral) Yitzhak Grill, Ramat Gan, Israel
13. DISCUSSIONS, Fred Neuer (Christian Israeli) David Barron, Reuben Berger and various Twin Cities rabbis
14. Aharoni, Yohanan, THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE LAND OF ISRAEL, Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pa 1982
15. Aharoni, Yohanan, THE LAND OF THE BIBLE, Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pa 1979
16. Allegro, John, THE MYSTERY OF THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS REVEALED, Gramercy Publ. House, New York, NY 1964
17. Ausubel, Nathan, THE BOOK OF JEWISH KNOWLEDGE, Crown Publ. House, New York, NY 1964
18. Ausubel, Nathan, PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE, Crown Publ. House, New York, NY 1973
19. Ben Sasson, A HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE, Dvir Publ. House, Tel

Aviv, Israel 1969

20. Birnbaum, Philip, ENCYCLOPEDIA OF JEWISH CONCEPTS, Sanhedrin Press, New York, NY 1979
21. Blaszc, Elijohu, Rabbi, CODE OF JEWISH FAMILY PURITY, Committee J. F. P., Brooklyn NY 1983
22. Brasch, R. Rabbi Dr., THE JUDAIC HERITAGE, David McKay Inc., New York, NY 1969
23. Cohen, Arthur A., THE MYTH OF THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN TRADITION, Harper & Row, New York, NY 1963
24. Cohen, Moore, Frank Jr, THE ANCIENT LIBRARY OF THE QUMRAN AND MODERN BIBLICAL STUDIES, Baker House Books Inc., Grand Rapids, Michigan 1961
25. Dimont, Max I., JEW, GOD AND HISTORY, New American Library Inc., New York, NY 1962
26. Donin, Hayim HaLevi Rabbi, TO BE A JEW, Basic Books Inc., New York, NY 1972
27. Donin, Hayim, HaLevi Rabbi, TO PRAY AS A JEW, Basic Books Inc., New York, NY 1968
28. Davies, Powell A., THE MEANING OF THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS, Mentor, New York, NY 1956
29. Enslin, Scott Morton, CHRISTIAN BEGINNINGS, Harper Torchbooks, New York, NY 1938
30. Edersheim, Alfred, DD., PhD., THE TEMPLE, ITS MINISTRY AND SERVICES and SCETCHES OF JEWISH SOCIAL LIFE, Eerdmans Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan
31. Edersheim, Alfred, DD., PhD., THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JESUS THE MESSIAH, 2 volumes, Eerdmans Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1965
32. Edersheim, Alfred, DD., PhD., OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE HISTORY, 2 volumes, Eerdmans Publ. House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1962
33. Fast, Howard, THE JEWS Dell Publ. Co. inc., New York, NY 1968
34. Fieger, Erwin, ISRAEL, Accidetia, Druck-und Verlags-GmbH, Düsseldorf, West Germany 1977
35. Franck, Adolph, THE KABBALAH, Bell Publ. Co. New York, NY 1940
36. Freeman, James M., MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE BIBLE, Logos International, Plainfield, New Jersey 1972
37. Gersh, Harry, WHEN A JEW CELBRATES, Behrman House Inc., New York, NY 1971
38. Gift, Joseph L., LIFE AND CUSTOMS IN JESUS' TIME, Standard Publ. Foundation, Cincinnati, Ohio 1967
39. Gilbert, Arthur Rabbi, YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WORSHIP, B'nai B'rith, New

40. Gilbert, Arthur Rabbi, THE PASSOVER SEDER, KTVA Publ. House, New York, NY 1970
41. Gilbertson, Merrill, T., THE WAY IT WAS IN BIBLE TIMES, Augsburg Publ. House, Minneapolis, MN 1959
42. Goldin, Judith, THE LIVING TALMUD, Mentor Books Inc., New York, NY 1957
43. Gordon, Cyrus H., THE COMMON BACKGROUND OF HEBREW AND GREEK CIVILIZATIONS, W. W. Norton & Co., New York, NY 1965
44. Hanson, C. M., NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM, Augsburg Publ. House, Minneapolis, MN
45. House, H. Wayne, CHRONOLOGICAL AND BACKGROUND CHARTS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1981
46. Josephus, Flavius, COMPLETE WORKS OF JOSEPHUS, Kregel Publ. Grand Rapids, Michigan 1960
47. Klinck, Arthur W., HOME LIFE IN BIBLE TIMES, Concordia Publ. House, St. Louis, MO 1947
48. Kolatch, Alfred J., THE JEWISH BOOK OF WHY, Jonathon David Publ. Inc., Middle Village, NY 1981
49. LaSor, Wm. Sanford, DAILY LIFE IN BIBLE TIMES, Standard Publ., Cincinnati, Ohio 1966
50. Lawrenz, John Dr, PASSOVER, Saginaw, Michigan 1980
51. Nardi, Shulamith Schwartz, THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS, Printing House Lychenheim & Sons Ltd., Jerusalem, Israel 1958
52. Nissim, Itzhak Rabbi, Sephardic Chief rabbi of Israel, HAGGADAH SUPPLIMENT
53. Pfeiffer, Charles F., THE BIBLICAL WORLD, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1966
54. Pfeiffer, Charles F., BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS, Bazker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1981
55. Pfeiffer, Charles F., THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS AND THE BIBLE, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1969
56. Potek, Chaim, WANDERINGS, Fawcett Crest Books, New York, NY 1978
57. Renberg, Dalia Hardof, JEWISH HOLIDAYS, Adama Books, New York, NY 1985
58. Rhoads, David M., ISRAEL IN REVOLUTION, Fortress Press, Philadelphia, PA 1976
59. Rockland, Mae Shafter, THE JEWISH PARTY BOOK, Schocken Books, New York, NY 1978

60. Silver, Abba Hillel, MESSIANIC SPECULATION IN ISRAEL, Beacon Press, Boston, Mass. 1959
61. Simon, Marcel, JEWISH SECTS, Fortress Press, Philadelphia, PA 1960
62. Shulsinger Brothers Press, HAGGADAH PESACH, (Hebrew), New York, NY 1960
63. Strassfeld, Michael, THE JEWISH CALENDAR, Universe Publ., New York, NY 1984
64. Sylvester, Charles H., THE WRITINGS OF MANKIND, Vol 2, pp 837-1054, Bellows-Reeve Co., Kansas City, MO 1924
65. Thompson, Barbara, PASSOVER SEDER, Augsburg Publ. House, Minneapolis, MN 1984
66. Van Deursen, A., ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF BIBLE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS, Pilosophical Library Inc., New York, NY 1967
67. Vaux, Roland de, ANCIENT ISRAEL-SOCIAL/RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS, 2 vol, McGraw Hill, New York, NY 1965
68. Walton, John H., CHRONOLOGICAL CHARTS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1978
69. Wight, Fred H., MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF BIBLE LANDS, Moody Press, Chicago, IL 1953
70. Wright G. Ernest, GREAT PEOPLE OF THE BIBLE AND HOW THEY LIVED, Reader's Digest Ass. Inc., Pleasantville, NY 1971